



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

## ANNUAL MEETING, 1878.

The Annual Meeting of the Society was held on Wednesday, the 10th of April (Thursday, the stated time, being Fast Day), at 11 o'clock A.M. The President, Mr. WINTHROP, on taking the chair, addressed the meeting as follows:—

We come to our eighty-eighth Annual Meeting, gentlemen, under cheering auspices, and with fresh cause for gratitude to God and man. Our ranks are full. Our finances were never in a more hopeful condition. And we have to-day a more than usual manifestation of the interest and industry of our committees in the work with which they have been intrusted. Two new volumes, just from the press, are on our table this morning, — one of Proceedings, and one of Collections; and with them is the first half of another volume, containing a large portion of "The Sewall Diary."

I will not say that there is nothing wanting to our prosperity. These very publications have made a large draft upon at least one of our publishing funds. We greatly need an addition to our means for printing our Collections, in order to enable us to accomplish, from year to year, all that we might accomplish with the rich materials in which our archives abound. If one more George Peabody, or one more Samuel Appleton, could come to our aid, our publishing work would never require to be suspended for want of money.

Meantime, we may rejoice in the renewed activity and prosperity of other Societies as well as our own. The Magazines which have recently been established by our sister Societies of New York and Pennsylvania are most notable additions to historical literature, and give promise of valuable fruits. Indeed, there has hardly ever before been a moment when so great an interest was manifested, in all parts of the country, in those historical pursuits and publications to which the establishment of this Society, under the auspices of Dr. Belknap, gave the earliest example and impulse in 1790. Our Centennial Anniversary is not very far distant; and though some of us may not be here to participate in its celebration, we may all hope that the promise of to-day may be fulfilled, and that, when the record of a hundred years shall be made up, it will be a record worthy of this oldest American Historical Society, and redound to the honor of all who have been associated with it.

The Recording Secretary read the record of the March meeting, which was approved.

The Librarian presented his usual monthly list of donations to the Library.

The Cabinet-keeper announced the gift, by Mrs. Mary C. Wheeler, of the lock from the study door of the house of Jonathan Edwards, in Northampton. It was taken from the door by the Rev. John Wheeler, D.D., President of the University of Vermont, when the building was torn down, about the year 1825.

Mr. SAMUEL F. HAVEN, of Worcester, exhibited a fragment of manuscript purporting to be an extract from the diary of the Rev. David McClure, D.D., late of East Windsor, Conn., relating to the battle of Lexington, and said :—

Dr. McClure was a native of Brookfield, Mass., and graduated at Yale College in 1769. After leaving college, he was employed as a missionary in the western country, and wrote an account of the appearance of Braddock's field at the time of his visit. "It was a melancholy spectacle," he says, "to see the bones of men strewn over the ground, left to this day without the solemn rite of sepulture. . . . Many hundreds of skulls lay on the ground. I examined several, and found the mark of the scalping-knife on all." The exact date of this visit does not appear ; but it was many years after the battle, which took place in 1755.

From Nov. 13th, 1776, to Aug. 30th, 1785, Dr. McClure was minister of North Hampton, N. H. In 1786, he was installed at East Windsor, Conn., where he died, June 25th, 1820, aged seventy-one. He was a trustee of Dartmouth College, and a respected and useful minister. In 1776, he declined an invitation to settle in Portsmouth, N. H., from the church over which Dr. Buckminster was ordained in 1779. He was a Corresponding Member of our Society, and communications from him will be found among our Collections ; one of them being an account of the settlement and antiquities of Windsor.

From the specimen herewith produced, it will be seen that his diary probably contains many facts and observations of great interest, and of historical importance ; and it is a matter of much regret that no knowledge of its present existence has been obtained.

After all the research that has been expended upon the minor incidents connected with the battles of Lexington and Concord, it is remarkable that the fall of the first British officer who lost his life in the war of the Revolution is so

imperfectly and incorrectly recorded. In Shattuck's "History of Concord," p. 116, it is stated that "Lieutenant Edward Hall, of the British 43d Regiment, was wounded at North Bridge, and taken prisoner on the retreat. He died the next day, and his remains were delivered up to General Gage."

This account appears to have been accepted as correct, and sufficiently complete, by all later writers. We find by the fragment from Dr. McClure's diary that the name of the officer was not Hall, but *Hull*; and that he survived a good many days. The interview of the American divine with him and others of the wounded is described in a graphic manner; and some of the facts related in that connection are new and of historical significance.

The true date of the death of Lieutenant Hull may be derived from the following authorities:—

The Diary of a British Officer in Boston, in 1775, contributed to the "Atlantic Monthly" (April and May, 1877), by Hon. Richard H. Dana, Jr., and edited by his daughter, Miss Elizabeth E. Dana, has this entry, under date of May 4th, 1775: "The late Lieut. Hull, of the 43d, was buried to-day. He was wounded and taken prisoner on the 19th [of April], and the day before yesterday died of his wounds. They yesterday brought him to town, as he had requested it."

And the Orderly Book of John Fenno, secretary to the American Commander-in-chief, which is in possession of this Society, and is cited in the Society's publication of Colonel William Henshaw's Orderly Book, has the following order: "May 3, 1775.—Ordered, That Lieuts. Farnum, Johnson, and Walker, Adjutants Febiger, Warner, and Fox, escort the corpse of Lieut. Hull to Charlestown."

It is probable that the interment took place at the burial-ground on Copp's Hill.

There is nothing to be added, at present, respecting Lieutenant Hull, except that among the papers of Colonel Henshaw preserved by his grand-daughter, Miss H. E. Henshaw, is a letter to the unfortunate officer from a younger brother at home, which probably arrived after his death. It is dated at Hillsborough, in Ireland, April 12th, 1775, and contains many details of local and domestic information. It appears from this that the family were of good standing in the community, residing at Hillsborough, where lived Lord Hillsborough, the celebrated Secretary of State for the Colonies, and one of the leaders of the Administration which had to bear the unpopularity of the American war.

In this letter to "Dear Ned," the youthful writer says:

“I have often heard you say that when you went abroad you would keep a journal of your life and actions. It is now one year since you left England. I suppose the reason you did not write was to wait until the year was expired, and then you would send us the whole year’s journal, which my father, mother, and sisters beg you will do. It must be a large one; and send it in different letters directed to different persons in the family, paging it, and that will afford you subjects enough to write one to every person here, which will please them, and which is so much longed for. As there is a dispute between England and America, and you are in the only place where the greatest dispute is, you must surely know every occurrence that happens there, being one of the persons under pay to prevent any further disputes with the Americans. The above journal is sincerely wished for here; and, if sent, would cure all past neglects, and also inform us that you are alive, which some persons think you are not, as you never write.”

If a journal was actually kept by Lieutenant Hull, we trust it ultimately reached the anxious circle of relatives and friends at home. Should it have remained in this country, it may be a desirable document to discover among the private papers of the period.

The fragment of Dr. McClure’s diary is as follows:—

. . . “that it was flattened on one side by the ribs as if it had been beaten with a hammer. He was a plain, honest man, to appearance, who had voluntarily turned out with his musket at the alarm of danger, as did also some thousands besides, on that memorable day. In the same room lay mortally wounded a British officer, Lieutenant Hull, of a youthful, fair, and delicate countenance. He was of a respectable family of fortune in Scotland. Sitting on one feather-bed, he leaned on another, and was attempting to suck the juice of an orange which some neighbor had brought. The physician of the place had been to dress his wounds, and a woman was appointed to attend him. His breeches were bloody, lying on the bed. I observed that he had no shirt on, and was wrapped in a coating great coat, with a fur cap on his head. I inquired of the woman why he was thus destitute of clothing. He answered: ‘When I fell, our people (the British) stripped me of my coat, vest, and shirt, and your people of my shoes and buckles.’\* How inhuman!—his own men! I asked him if he was dangerously wounded. He replied, ‘Yes, *mortally*’; that he had received three balls in his body. His countenance expressed great bodily anguish. I con-

---

\* “The person who took these articles is now living in the vicinity of Boston.”—*Dr. McClure’s note.*

versed with him a short time on the prospect of death, and a preparation for that solemn scene; to which he appeared to pay serious attention. He lived about a week, and the people conveyed his body in a coffin to Charlestown ferry, where I happened to be present, and a barge from the *Somerset* took it to Boston. Not far from this house lay four fine British horses; the people were taking off their shoes. One informed me that a wagon loaded with provisions was sent from Boston for the refreshment of the retreating army, under an escort of six grenadiers. They had got as far as this place, when a number of men (ten or twelve) collected, and ordered them to surrender. They marched on, and our men fired, killed the driver and the horses; when the rest fled a little way, and surrendered. Another wagon sent on the same business was also taken that day. It was strange that General Gage should send them through a country in which he had just kindled the flames of war, in so defenceless a condition. Saw three regulars in beds in a house in Cambridge; one of them mortally wounded. Conversed with them on their melancholy situation. One of them refused to answer, and cast upon me a revengeful look. Perhaps he was a papist, and his priest had pardoned his sins. The houses on the road of the march of the British were all perforated with balls, and the windows broken. Horses, cattle, and swine lay dead around. Such were the dreadful trophies of war for about twenty miles. I hovered around Boston several days. Very few of the inhabitants were permitted to come out. Having some things in Boston which I wished to have sent round to Marblehead, I wrote to my brother-in-law, Captain Henry Hunter, who with my sister Hunter were there, to send them. And having obtained a permit from the colonel commanding our militia at Roxbury, to go to the British guards on the Neck, I went within call, and waved my hat for permission to enter, when Davis,\* a Boston Tory, and inspector of those who came out, came towards me, but refused to take the letters which I reached towards him. He said General Gage had given orders that there should be no communication between town and country. I got my letter in, however, the same day."

The President read a portion of the following letter, put into his hands by Professor Norton, who had received it from an English source, written in 1779, by an aged Bostonian, to his English correspondent, a clergyman, relating to American affairs. As was often the case in those troublesome times, the letter is unsigned, nor is its address preserved. Conjecture only can furnish a clue to the writer or his correspondent.

---

\* "Davis had greatly provoked many of the inhabitants who were permitted to leave the town, by his meanness in searching the pockets, it was said, of women and men, to see that they carried out no more money than Gage allowed. To show the amity of the American character, Davis was permitted to return and live in peace in Boston, where I saw him in 1805, hobbling on his staff, when he told me he was allowed but a guinea per day for his and his sons' services in that unworthy office." — *Dr. McClure's note.*

Mr. Winthrop suggested the names of Drs. Priestley and Price as possible recipients of the letter, and remarked that Dr. Chauncy was perhaps the only Boston patriot whose age corresponded with a statement made by the writer. He also said that this was not the original letter, but a copy: \*—

Boston, May 20, 1779.

REV. AND DEAR SIR,—As the honorable Mr. Temple † is going to Holland, and may have it in his power to convey a letter to you with safety, I could not excuse myself from writing by so favorable an opportunity. What I have in view is to assure you that the situation of our public affairs is not as has been represented by Governor Johnstone and the Commissioners sent with him to America. They were confined to Philadelphia and New York the whole time of their continuance here, and had (nor could have had) no other information respecting the Congress or the circumstances of these States than what they received from British officers and refugees who had taken part with them. The ministers could, therefore, by their accounts have no true knowledge of the state of things in this part of the world; and so far as they might be disposed to act upon principles, grounded upon these accounts, they must act upon the foot of misrepresentation, not to say direct falsehood.

Governor Johnstone, by his conduct while here, has proved himself to be nothing better than a ministerial tool, and is universally held in contempt. By his speeches in Parliament relative to America, he appears to have known nothing of its real state, or to have given a notoriously wrong representation of it. A very great part of what he delivers there, as we have had it in the newspapers, is wholly beside the truth, and indisputably so. We pity the man, but much more the ministry in giving so much credit to his account as in any measure to govern their conduct by it.

It is, indeed, acknowledged our paper currency has sunk in its value to a great degree, which has occasioned the price of the necessities of life to rise to an enormous height; but this has not been disadvantageous to us, *collectively considered*. None have suffered on this account but *salary men*,—those who depended on the value and interest of their money for subsistence,—and *the poor* among us. As to the rest, whether merchants, manufacturers, tradesmen, and day-laborers, the rise of their demands has all along been in proportion to the depreciation of the currency, and the rise of the necessities of life thereupon. It may seem strange, but it is certain fact, that the American States, notwithstanding the vast depreciation of currency, and the excessive high price of provisions of all kinds, are *richer* now in reality, and not in name only, than they were in any former period of time;

---

\* Professor Norton has, since the above was written, learned from his English friend that there is some reason to think that this letter was addressed to Dr. Priestley. — Eds.

† Afterward Sir John Temple, son-in-law of Governor Bowdoin. — Eds.

and they are much better able to carry on the war now than when they began it. One great fault they are justly chargeable with. It is this: they have almost continually been too attentive to the getting of gain, as there have been peculiar temptations hereto since the commencement of the present contest. They would otherwise, I have no doubt, have cleared the land of British Troops long before this time; and nothing is now wanting, under the smiles of Providence, to effect this but such exertions of the king's forces as would generally alarm the country. There would then appear a sufficiency of strength to do by them as was done by Burgoyne and his army. While they suffer themselves to be, as it were, imprisoned in New York and Rhode Island, and go not forth unless to steal sheep and oxen, and plunder and burn the houses of poor innocent people by surprise, it makes no great noise here, whatever by pompous aggravation it may do in London.

Our people want only to be roused. It would then be seen what they could do. I may add here, our freeholders and farmers, by the plenty of paper money, have cleared themselves of debts, and got their farms enlarged and stocked beyond what they could otherwise have done; and rather than give up their independency, or lose their liberties, would go forth to a man in defence of their country, and would do it like so many lions.

The British administration hurt themselves more than they do us, as a people, by continuing the war; and they must bring it to a conclusion, or they will ruin themselves instead of us. The longer they protract the war, the more difficult it will be to obtain such terms of peace as they might have had, and, perhaps, may still have. These States will soon lose that little confidence they may now place in the British Ministers. None of the minority in Parliament have a worse opinion of them than is generally entertained here.

A valuation of the Massachusetts State has lately been made, in order to its being properly taxed; and it is found, notwithstanding the vast number of cattle that have been slain for the army, as well as [for the] inhabitants, that they are more numerous now than in any period of time since the settlement of the country. In the county of Worcester only, which, within my remembrance, had but a very few inhabitants, there appears to be more than *forty thousand* head of cattle, and sheep in proportion. No longer ago than the year 1721, I rode through Worcester, — now as well and as largely inhabited a town as almost any in the State, — and it was in as perfectly wilderness a condition as any spot between Boston and Canada; not a house or inhabitant to be seen there. I have mentioned this only to point out to you the internal sources of provision we have, though the war be continued ever so long. But I may not enlarge. Your good friend, Mr. Wainthorp,\* died about twelve days ago. I also am grown infirm as well as old, and very unable to write; for which reason you will excuse the blots as well as almost illegible writing of the present letter, for I could not transcribe

---

\* Professor John Winthrop died May 3d, 1779. — Eds.



it to send it to you. If I should live to see a settled state of things, I will, if I should have strength, write you very largely upon our affairs. I am, with due respect, &c.

P. S. — Congress are as firmly united as ever in their attachment to the liberties and independence of America, and the people place an entire confidence in them as from the beginning, notwithstanding all that Johnstone and the other Commissioners, ridiculously to us, endeavour to make people believe on your side of the water; and, notwithstanding the depreciation of our paper currency and the high prices of provision, the people are more averse than ever to a submission to Great Britain, and would rather die than come in to it. Mr. Temple has been from New York to Boston, and from Boston to Philadelphia, and from Philadelphia back again to Boston. He went through most of the more populous towns between these places; and, as he had an opportunity of seeing and conversing with the first and best gentlemen we have in these States, he can, should he go to England, give you a more just and true account of our political affairs than you have yet had; and I believe you may depend upon his giving you an honest account of things among us.

N. B. — Mr. Temple has amply confirmed the above, and added more particulars to the same purport.

Mr. Gamaliel Bradford, of Grantville, was elected a Resident Member.

The proceedings of the Annual Meeting were now entered upon. The Rev. Henry W. Foote, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Council; Dr. Samuel A. Green, the Librarian; Mr. William S. Appleton, the Cabinet-keeper; and Mr. Charles C. Smith, the Treasurer,—presented their several annual reports, which were accepted, and referred to the Committee on the Proceedings. Mr. AMOS A. LAWRENCE, from the Committee appointed to examine the Treasurer's accounts, certified to their correctness, and to the satisfactory investment of the funds.

The annual reports here follow:—

*Report of the Council.*

The same occasion which caused our Annual Meeting, a year ago, to be held on the day previous to the stated time,—the appointment of the annual Fast Day, by the Governor and Council, for the second Thursday in April,—has this year again induced your Council to anticipate, by one day, the usual time for holding our anniversary meeting.

The volume of Proceedings published, and on the table to-day, contains the full record of our monthly meetings, and the communications presented at them, and renders unneces-

sary any detailed account of the history of the Society during the past twelve months. It will show that our meetings have been enriched with as much valuable material, and have been as well attended, as in any previous year, and will indicate the continued prosperity of the Society. The Report of the Librarian will show the steady growth of the Library, which has been increased from the 24,315 volumes and 46,000 pamphlets of last year to 25,000 volumes and 48,760 pamphlets, besides the maps, newspapers, &c., which have been added during the year. A necessity which has been felt by those who have had occasion to consult the extensive manuscript collections in the Library will be met by the complete catalogue of our manuscripts, which the Council has directed to be prepared as soon as practicable. At present, a considerable part of them not being catalogued, a laborious search is sometimes entailed upon students consulting them. Another need of the Library is a shelf catalogue; and the Council hope that at no distant day the funds and clerical force at their disposal will enable them to make this valuable addition to the facilities of the Library.

In addition to the volume of Proceedings just published, the Society has published a centennial volume of Collections, which is to-day in the hands of members. This volume, made up from the important letters of Washington to Major-General William Heath, and from papers furnished by Mr. Adams, Mr. Winthrop, and Mr. Warren, contains a rich store of materials illustrating the history of the Revolutionary War. The first part of the "Sewall Papers," comprising 300 pages, is also to-day in the hands of members, and will be received with special interest, as the first instalment of a contribution to the later colonial and earlier provincial period of our history, whose publication has been long anticipated, and which is probably the most important unpublished authority on the period from 1671 to 1728 in existence. These papers will be contained in three volumes, of about 550 pages each; and the committee propose to print a fourth volume, made up from Judge Sewall's letter-book.

A considerable number of members of the Society have published books during the year, of which the larger portion illustrate the historical studies to which the Society is dedicated. Our first Vice-President, Mr. Adams, has completed, with the twelfth volume, the Memoir and Diary of his father, President J. Q. Adams, — a work of the first value, not only as a unique contribution to the history of an important period, but as illustrating the character of that eminent statesman. Mr.

Francis Parkman has added to the six volumes of his historical narrations a seventh, entitled "Frontenac and New France under Louis XIV.," in which that typical figure from the French court is the central personage, and the attempt to plant the customs and principles of the Court of the "Grand Monarque" on Canadian soil is vividly described.

Mr. H. C. Lodge has made a valuable contribution to the history of the administration of Washington, and to that of the Federalist party, in his "Life and Letters of George Cabot." Messrs. W. H. Whitmore and W. S. Appleton have edited the important "Book of Possessions," published by the City of Boston, and containing the earliest records of real estate on this peninsula. Mr. Charles Deane has edited "A Discourse on Western Planting, by Richard Hakluyt," being volume second of the Documentary History of Maine; and has also elucidated an important passage in our Revolutionary history by his discussion of the surrender of Burgoyne, in the "Report of the Council of the American Antiquarian Society." Mr. T. C. Amory has published a monograph, entitled "Blackstone, Boston's First Inhabitant"; Mr. E. B. Bigelow, a contribution to Political Economy, "The Tariff Policy of England and of the United States Contrasted"; Mr. Winsor, a sumptuous work on the editions of Shakespeare, a "Bibliography of the original Quartos and Folios of Shakespeare"; and Mr. C. C. Perkins, a "Study of Raphael and Michael Angelo." Professor Francis Bowen, who has retired from the Society, to our regret, since the publication of the work, has given to the world an important work on philosophy, "History of Modern Philosophy, from Descartes to Kant."

The Society has lost by death, during the year, four of its Resident Members,—the Hon. John Lothrop Motley, the Hon. Lorenzo Sabine, Edmund Quincy, Esq., and George Bemis, Esq., whose distinguished characters and varied services and diverse careers were fitly commemorated at our meetings. Mr. Sabine, whose work on the American Loyalists no other could have written, and perhaps not even he at a later time, died at a ripe old age, in April, 1877. Our meeting in June of that year became a memorial service, in which worthy tributes were paid to the memory of Mr. Quincy and Mr. Motley. The death of Mr. Quincy took from the Society its Recording Secretary, after he had held the position but a single month; and there was added, to the sense of our personal sorrow for the loss of a courteous and high-minded gentleman, the deprivation of services in which the accomplished

biographer of President Quincy would have found a congenial occupation. Mr. Motley's long residence in Europe, in distinguished diplomatic service and in a private station, had for years prevented him from being present at our meetings ; but his brilliant histories had added lustre, during his absence, to the literary fame of our country and of this Society.

The sorrow of his personal friends, whose affection distance and time did not diminish, testified to his rare and attractive endowments. Mr. Bemis had also been prevented, by occupation while in Boston, and by years of foreign residence, from participating in our meetings ; but his important writings as a publicist testified to his special qualifications for membership here, and his liberal bequest to the Society will cause him to be gratefully remembered among its benefactors.

The Society has also lost, by death, one Honorary and two Corresponding Members. M. Thiers was the first citizen of France, and his varied career was a succession of illustrious triumphs. His brilliant Histories of the Consulate and Empire did much to bring about that Second Empire which he so strongly opposed. He did more than armies to save France, in her peril, from destruction. He was the first President of the Third Republic, and the man to whom, in his retirement, notwithstanding his fourscore years, his country was looking for further service. The decease of Mr. Thomas Donaldson, of Baltimore, has taken from our roll of Corresponding Members the name of an eminent lawyer and a gentleman of high character. By the death of the Hon. George T. Davis, the Society loses one who had been transferred from our list of Resident to that of Corresponding Members, in consequence of his removal to another State, but whose interest in our objects, and whose rare wit and genial presence, always made him peculiarly welcome among us.

To fill the vacancies thus created in the Society, five new Resident Members have been elected, — Messrs. Justin Winsor, J. Elliot Cabot, George Dexter, G.V. Fox, and Henry Lee. The choice of a sixth, to-day, Mr. Gamaliel Bradford, completes the full hundred of our roll.

The Memoirs of George Bemis, Esq., by Judge Hoar, of the Hon. Benjamin R. Curtis, by Dr. Chandler Robbins, and of the Hon. James Savage, by the Hon. George S. Hillard, are now in the hands of the Committee on Publication, and will appear in the forthcoming volume of Proceedings. It is greatly to be desired that the memoirs of other deceased members, undertaken by various members of the Society, shall be completed and published as soon as possible ; and also that,

by a reassignment of the memoirs, yet unwritten, of earlier members of the Society, the much-needed volumes of early Proceedings may be brought to completion. From an interesting report by Mr. Joseph Willard, in January, 1853, on our files, it appears that, while in our Collections up to that time the memoirs of thirty-nine Resident Members had appeared, "the tribute of respect remains due to thirty-eight of our number, according to the obligation of our Society, expressed at the earliest instance of the death of a Resident Member, and renewed and confirmed by the vote of April, 1836." Since 1855, over thirty memoirs have been assigned, which have not yet been put into the hands of the Publishing Committee. Among them are the names of some of the most eminent men who have ever adorned our roll of membership. It cannot be necessary to urge on this Society the duty which we owe not only to these honored names, but to the honorable record of the Society itself.

On the resignation of Francis Parkman, Esq., as a member of the Executive Committee, the Hon. Richard Frothingham was elected in his stead. The Council has also been deprived of the attendance of Professor James Russell Lowell, at most of its meetings, by his appointment as United States Minister to Spain, and consequent residence at Madrid.

The services of Mr. George Arnold having been brought to a close, Mr. J. H. Tuttle has been engaged as an assistant in the Library. On the decease of Mr. Quincy, Mr. Charles Deane was requested to assume the position of Recording Secretary *pro tempore*, and has discharged the responsible duties of that office in addition to those of Corresponding Secretary, since June last; thus yet further increasing the obligations of the Society to him for his many important services during fourteen years, in which he has edited nine volumes of the Proceedings.

All which is respectfully submitted for the Council.

HENRY W. FOOTE,

*Chairman of the Executive Committee.*

*Report of the Cabinet-keeper.*

The Cabinet-keeper has only to report that the articles in his charge are in good condition and order. Of the additions during the past year, it seems necessary to mention but one, — the gorget of Washington, presented by Miss Eliza Susan Quincy, in anticipation of her death, at which event it was to have come to this Society by the terms of the will of her father, President Josiah Quincy. The Society has also

accepted on deposit an exact model of the old Brattle Street Meeting-house, placed here by the Standing Committee of that Society. Nothing has yet been done in the matter of a better arrangement of the most valuable and interesting objects in the Cabinet; but the subject has lately been taken again into serious consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM S. APPLETON, *Cabinet-keeper.*

Boston, April 10, 1878.

*Report of the Librarian.*

The Librarian has the honor to submit his Annual Report. There have been added to the Library:—

Books . . . . .	685
Pamphlets . . . . .	2,761
Bound volume of newspapers . . . . .	1
Unbound volumes of newspapers . . . . .	94
Maps . . . . .	43
Broadsides . . . . .	90
Volumes of manuscripts . . . . .	2
Manuscripts . . . . .	8
<hr/>	
Making in all . . . . .	3,684

Of the books added, 434 have been given, and 251 have been bought. Of the pamphlets added, 2,632 have been given, 64 have been received by exchange, and 65 by purchase.

There are now in the Library, it is estimated, 25,000 volumes; including files of bound newspapers, the bound manuscripts, and the Dowse collection.

The number of pamphlets is now about 48,760.

Mr. Lawrence has added this year 53 volumes, 5 pamphlets, and 1 newspaper, all relating to the Great Rebellion.

There have been bought with the income of the Savage Fund 250 volumes and 65 pamphlets.

During the year, 195 books and 11 pamphlets have been taken from the Library, and all have been returned.

Respectfully submitted,

SAMUEL A. GREEN, *Librarian.*

APRIL 10, 1878.

*Report of the Treasurer.*

The Treasurer of the Massachusetts Historical Society respectfully submits his Annual Report, made up to March 30, 1878. The last Annual Report was dated April 5, 1877;

but, in order to insure ample time for auditing and printing the Report, it has been thought best to adopt an earlier and uniform date for the Report, and in future the Treasurer's books will be closed on the last secular day in March. In consequence of this change, only three items are excluded from the accounts now presented which were in the Report of last year: namely, one quarter's rent of the premises leased to the City of Boston, due April 1st, and amounting to \$2,250, which will be credited to the General Account, when collected; six months' interest, due April 1st, and amounting to \$150, on a part of the investments held for the Savage Fund; and six months' interest on the mortgage note of the Society, which has heretofore been paid on the 1st of April, but which in future will be paid on the 17th of April, the date of the mortgage. This payment will amount to \$1,411.11, and will be chargeable to the General Account. With this explanation, an exact comparison can be made between the financial condition of the Society at the present time and its condition a year ago.

The funds held by the Treasurer are the following:—

I. THE APPLETON FUND, which was created Nov. 18, 1854, by the gift to the Society, from the executors of the will of the late Samuel Appleton, of the sum of ten thousand dollars, and which at the present time amounts to \$12,203, chargeable on the real estate of the Society. The income is computed at six per cent on the capital, and is applicable "to the procuring, preserving, preparation, and publication of historical papers."

II. THE MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL TRUST-FUND, which owes its origin to a gift of two thousand dollars from the Hon. David Sears, presented Oct. 15, 1855, and accepted by the Society Nov. 8, 1855, increased on the 26th of December, 1866, by a further gift of five hundred dollars from Mr. Sears and a gift of five hundred dollars from Mr. Nathaniel Thayer. By a vote of the Society passed June 14, 1877, the Treasurer was instructed to add the interest to the principal until the fund shall reach the sum of ten thousand dollars. The objects for which the income will then be available, and the manner in which it must be appropriated, are set forth in Mr. Sears's declaration of trust in the printed Proceedings for November, 1855. The principal and accrued interest, as well as the annual interest on both sums at the rate of six per cent per annum, are a charge on the real estate of the Society. The principal and accrued interest amount at the present time to \$7,590.56.

III. THE DOWSE FUND, which was presented to the Society April 9, 1857, by the executors of the will of the late Thomas Dowse. This fund amounts to ten thousand dollars, and is also chargeable on the real estate of the Society. The income computed at the rate of six per cent is applicable to the "safe keeping" of the Dowse Library.

IV. THE PEABODY FUND, which was presented to the Society by the late George Peabody, in a letter dated Jan. 1, 1867, and which amounts at the present time to \$22,123, invested in seven per cent bonds of the Boston and Albany Railroad Co., and a deposit in the Suffolk Savings Bank. The income of this fund is available for the publication and illustration of the Society's Proceedings and Memoirs, and the preservation of the Society's Historical Portraits.

V. THE SAVAGE FUND, bequeathed by the late Hon. James Savage, and received by the Society in June, 1873. This fund stands on the books at \$5,023.25, invested in stock and bonds of the Philadelphia, Wilmington, and Baltimore Railroad Co.; and the income is to be expended for the increase of the Society's Library.

VI. THE GENERAL FUND. This is not a trust-fund, but represents a legacy of the late Henry Harris, received in July, 1867, which is invested in a bond of the Quincy and Palmyra Railroad Co., for one thousand dollars, and a bond of the Hannibal and St. Joseph Railroad Co., also for one thousand dollars. The income is credited to the General Account. In the judgment of the Treasurer, it will be most for the interest of the Society to keep this sum of \$2,000, and any reinvestment of it, as a permanent fund, to be enlarged by any similar gifts or bequests.

The following abstracts and the trial balance show the present condition of the several accounts:—

## CASH ACCOUNT.

	DEBITS.	
1877.		
April 2.	To balance on hand . . . . .	\$6,295.71
1878.		
March 30.	To receipts as follows:—	
	Sinking Fund . . . . .	2,282.04
	General Account . . . . .	8,783.96
	Income of Peabody Fund . . . . .	1,470.00
	Income of Savage Fund . . . . .	190.00
		<u>\$19,021.71</u>
March 30.	To balance brought down . . . . .	\$1,220.85



1878.		CREDITS.	
March 30.	By payments as follows :—		
	Reduction of mortgage . . . . .	\$10,000.00	
	Sinking Fund . . . . .	1,000.00	
	Income of Peabody Fund . . . . .	950.83	
	Income of Savage Fund . . . . .	740.29	
	Income of Appleton Fund . . . . .	537.13	
	General Account . . . . .	4,572.61	
	By balance on hand . . . . .	1,220.85	
			<u>\$19,021.71</u>

## GENERAL ACCOUNT.

1878.		DEBITS.	
March 30.	To sundry payments :—		
	J. A. Henshaw, salary . . . . .	\$1,159.22	
	G. Arnold, salary . . . . .	750.00	
	allowance . . . . .	160.00	
	J. H. Tuttle, salary . . . . .	70.00	
	Interest on mortgage (six months) . . . . .	1,416.67	
	Fuel and light . . . . .	132.39	
	Copying for Sewall Papers . . . . .	176.00	
	Printing, stationery, postage, and advertising . . . . .	110.97	
	Binding . . . . .	66.77	
	Repairs . . . . .	104.87	
	Care of fire . . . . .	188.60	
	Miscellaneous expenses . . . . .	237.12	
	Income of Appleton Fund . . . . .	732.18	
	Income of Massachusetts Historical Trust-Fund . . . . .	429.65	
	Income of Dowse Fund . . . . .	600.00	
	Sinking Fund . . . . .	2,000.00	
	Reduction of mortgage debt . . . . .	717.96	
	To balance to new account . . . . .	2,880.89	
			<u>\$11,933.29</u>

1877.		CREDITS.	
April 2.	By balance on hand . . . . .	\$2,549.33	

1878.			
March 30.	By sundry receipts :—		
	Rent of Building (nine months) . . . . .	6,750.00	
	Income of General Fund . . . . .	159.30	
	Interest . . . . .	62.62	
	Income of Dowse Fund . . . . .	600.00	
	Admission Fees . . . . .	100.00	
	Assessments . . . . .	1,330.00	
	Sales of publications . . . . .	382.04	
			<u>\$11,933.29</u>
March 30.	By balance brought down . . . . .	\$2,880.89	

*Income of Appleton Fund.*

1877.		DEBITS.	
April 2.	To balance against the account . . . . .	\$2,492.07	
1878.			
March 30.	To amount paid for printing . . . . .	537.13	
			<u>\$3,029.20</u>
March 30.	To balance brought down . . . . .	\$2,297.02	

## CREDITS.

1878.		
March 30.	By one year's interest on \$12,203 principal . . . . .	\$732.18
	„ balance carried forward . . . . .	2,297.02
		<u>\$3,029.20</u>

*Income of Massachusetts Historical Trust-Fund.*

## DEBITS.

1878.		
March 30.	To amount carried to new account . . . . .	<u>\$4,590.56</u>

## CREDITS.

1877.		
April 2.	By amount brought forward . . . . .	\$4,160.91
Sept. 1.	„ one year's interest on \$3,000 principal . . . . .	180.00
	„ one year's interest on accrued interest . . . . .	249.65
		<u>\$4,590.56</u>

1878.		
March 30.	By amount brought down . . . . .	<u>\$4,590.56</u>

*Income of Dowse Fund.*

## DEBITS.

1878.		
March 30.	To amount placed to credit of General Account . . . . .	<u>\$600.00</u>

## CREDITS.

1878.		
March 30.	By one year's interest on \$10,000 principal . . . . .	<u>\$600.00</u>

*Income of Peabody Fund.*

## DEBITS.

1878.		
March 30.	To amount paid for printing Proceedings . . . . .	\$813.89
	„ „ „ heliotypes . . . . .	96.50
	„ „ „ miscellaneous expenses . . . . .	40.44
	„ balance to new account . . . . .	2,028.76
		<u>\$2,979.59</u>

## CREDITS.

1877.		
April 2.	By balance brought forward . . . . .	\$1,509.59
1878.		
March 30.	By one year's interest on railroad bonds . . . . .	1,470.00
		<u>\$2,979.59</u>

March 30.	By balance brought down . . . . .	<u>\$2,028.76</u>
-----------	-----------------------------------	-------------------

*Income of Savage Fund.*

## DEBITS.

1878.		
March 30.	To amount paid for books . . . . .	\$698.36
	„ amount paid for binding . . . . .	41.93
	„ balance to new account . . . . .	17.66
		<u>\$757.95</u>

## CREDITS.

1877.		
April 2.	By balance brought forward . . . . .	\$567.95
1878.		
March 30.	By two semi-annual dividends on railroad shares . . . . .	40.00
	„ interest on railroad bonds (six months) . . . . .	150.00
		<u>\$757.95</u>
March 30.	By balance brought down . . . . .	\$17.66

*Sinking Fund.*

## DEBITS.

1878.		
January 1.	To amount applied to reduction of mortgage . . . . .	<u>\$3,282.04</u>

## CREDITS.

1877.		
April 2.	By amount on hand . . . . .	\$1,200.00
July 3.	„ amount transferred from the General Account . . . . .	1,000.00
1878.		
Jan. 1.	By amount transferred from the General Account . . . . .	1,000.00
	„ interest on investments . . . . .	82.04
		<u>\$3,282.04</u>

## TRIAL BALANCE.

## DEBITS.

Cash . . . . .	\$1,220.85
Real estate . . . . .	103,280.19
Investments . . . . .	35,146.25
Income of Appleton Fund . . . . .	2,297.02
	<u>\$141,944.31</u>

## CREDITS.

Notes payable . . . . .	\$50,000.00
Building account . . . . .	28,077.19
Appleton Fund . . . . .	12,203.00
Dowse Fund . . . . .	10,000.00
Massachusetts Historical Trust-Fund . . . . .	3,000.00
Peabody Fund . . . . .	22,123.00
Savage Fund . . . . .	5,023.25
General Fund . . . . .	2,000.00
Income of Massachusetts Historical Trust-Fund . . . . .	4,590.56
Income of Peabody Fund . . . . .	2,023.76
Income of Savage Fund . . . . .	17.66
General Account . . . . .	2,880.89
	<u>\$141,944.31</u>

In accordance with arrangements made by the late Treasurer, the mortgage-debt of the Society has been reduced \$10,000 within the year. Of this sum, \$6,000 were taken from the unexpended income of previous years, \$3,282.04 from the sinking fund, and \$717.96 from the income of

the current year. Provision has been made for a further reduction of the debt; but the means available for this purpose are small, and the reduction must proceed very slowly.

The income of the Dowse, Peabody, and Savage Funds is, in each case, sufficient for the purpose for which the fund was created; and the generous intentions of their donors are fully carried out. But the income of the Appleton Fund is entirely inadequate to defray the cost of printing the Collections as rapidly as the interests of historical investigation demand. Already the income for the next three or four years has been anticipated; and, after the completion of the volume of Revolutionary Papers now in the press, no further sums should be charged to this account until the accumulated income shall amount to a sufficient sum to extinguish the debt with which the income of the fund is now charged. The chief want of the Society at the present time is an addition to the permanent fund for the publication of its Collections, or the creation of a new fund for the same purpose.

After paying for binding the volume of Proceedings which will probably be on the table at the annual meeting, the balance to the credit of the income of the Peabody Fund will be sufficient to defray the cost of printing another volume, beginning with the meeting held in January last, and to justify the immediate commencement of a volume of selections from the early Proceedings of the Society. For the preparation of that volume there are abundant materials in the Society's archives.

No change has been made in any of the investments during the year; and, in making this statement, the Treasurer desires to add his testimony to the good judgment and ability with which his predecessor administered the financial affairs of the Society during his long term of service, — a period much longer than that in which any one else has held the office.

CHARLES C. SMITH, *Treasurer.*

Boston, March 30, 1878.

*Report of the Auditing Committee.*

The undersigned, a Committee appointed to examine the accounts of the Treasurer of the Massachusetts Historical Society, as made up to March 30, 1878, have attended to their duty, and report that they find them correctly kept and properly vouched; that the securities held by him for the several funds correspond with the statement in his Annual

Report; that the balance of cash on hand is satisfactorily accounted for; and that the Trial Balance is accurately taken from the Ledger.

AMOS A. LAWRENCE, }  
GEORGE B. CHASE, } *Committee\**

Boston, April 8, 1878.

Mr. FOOTE, from the Committee to nominate officers, reported the following list of officers for the ensuing year, which was unanimously adopted:—

*President.*

HON. ROBERT C. WINTHROP, LL.D. . . . . BOSTON.

*Vice-Presidents.*

HON. CHARLES F. ADAMS, LL.D. . . . . BOSTON.

REV. GEORGE E. ELLIS, D.D. . . . . BOSTON.

*Recording Secretary.*

GEORGE DEXTER, A.M. . . . . CAMBRIDGE.

*Corresponding Secretary.*

CHARLES DEANE, LL.D. . . . . CAMBRIDGE.

*Treasurer.*

CHARLES C. SMITH, Esq. . . . . BOSTON.

*Librarian.*

SAMUEL A. GREEN, M.D. . . . . BOSTON.

*Cabinet-keeper.*

WILLIAM S. APPLETON, A.M. . . . . BOSTON.

*Executive Committee of the Council.*

RICHARD FROTHINGHAM, LL.D. . . . . BOSTON.

CHARLES C. PERKINS, A.M. . . . . BOSTON.

WINSLOW WARREN, LL.B. . . . . DEDHAM.

CHARLES W. TUTTLE, A.M. . . . . BOSTON.

LEVERETT SALTONSTALL, A.M. . . . . NEWTON.

The Treasurer stated that, since his annual report was made up, he had set aside one thousand dollars toward the sinking fund, and also that he had succeeded in reinsuring the Society's building at a considerably reduced rate.

The following votes were unanimously adopted:—

*Voted*, That the thanks of the Society are extended to Mr. Charles Deane for his valuable services as Recording Secretary for the past year.

Also, That the thanks of the Society are presented to

---

\* Mr. W. Amory, chairman, was unavoidably detained from the meeting of the Committee, and was not able to make a personal examination of the accounts.—Eds.

Messrs. Henry W. Foote and James Russell Lowell, for their services as members of the Executive Committee of the Council.

The President again called attention to the new volume of Proceedings, beginning with the monthly meeting in October, 1876, and ending with the monthly meeting in December, 1877, as ready for distribution; also, to the new volume (a centennial volume) of Collections, from a committee of which the Hon. Charles Francis Adams was chairman. This latter comprised a large number of letters from Washington to General Heath, which were furnished from the "Heath Papers"; also, a correspondence between John Adams and Professor John Winthrop; the volume concluding with a spicy correspondence between John Adams and Mrs. Mercy Warren of Plymouth. There was also a serial, of about three hundred pages, of the Diary of Judge Sewall, issued from a committee of which the Rev. Dr. Ellis was chairman. This Diary, which will also include the letters of Judge Sewall, will comprise, when completed in print, about four volumes of some five hundred pages each.

The thanks of the Society were voted to the several committees whose volumes were presented at this meeting.

A Committee, consisting of Mr. Charles Deane and Mr. Charles C. Smith, was appointed to prepare from the Society's records and contemporaneous documents one or more volumes of Proceedings, from the formation of the Society down to the year 1855, when the printed Proceedings begin. This will embrace a full history of the Society, including many Memoirs of its earlier members.

After the formal meeting was dissolved, the members adjourned to No. 90 Marlborough Street, where they partook of the sumptuous hospitality of the President.